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JGJR.: 07-07

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OFFICE OF PETITIONS

In re Application of
Stellander
Application No. 10/762,344
Filed: 23 January, 2004
Attorney Docket No. 115943

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ON PETITION

This is a decision on the papers considered by the Office as a petition filed on 7 October, 2004, under 37 C.F.R. §1.47.

The Office regrets the delay in addressing this matter, however, the matter was presented to the attorneys in the Office of Petitions only at this writing.

For the reasons set forth below, the petition under 37 C.F.R. §1.47 is **DISMISSED**.

BACKGROUND

The record indicates:

- the instant application was filed on 23 January, 2004, without, *inter alia*, a fully executed oath/declaration;
- thereafter Petitioner appears to have submitted the executed oath/declaration on 5 April, 2004, without properly awaiting the mailing/receipt of the Notice of Missing Parts;
- as a result, the executed oath/declaration may not have been matched with the file because on 11 August, 2004, the Office mailed a Notice of Missing Parts indicating, *inter alia*, that a fully executed oath/declaration (signed and dated) was required;

- on 7 October, 2004, Petitioner Chrisitan D. Abel (Reg. No. 43,455) filed, *inter alia*, the papers considered as the instant petition, and evidencing that an oath/declaration signed by sole inventor Bernt Stellander (Mr. Stellander) was filed on 5 April, 2004, following the filing of the application on 23 January, 2004.

Petitioner is cautioned that documents not filed with the original application should be filed with the Notice of Missing Parts—and not without a copy of the Notice thereof—to prevent the confusion such as that herein from untimely and/or multiple filings.

Further, it is noted that the Status Inquiry filed by Petitioner on 5 June, 2007, is not with regard to a pending petition, but rather a general inquiry as to the status of examination.

Out of an abundance of caution, Petitioners always are reminded that those registered to practice *and* all others who make representations before the Office are to inquire into the underlying facts of representations made to the Office and support averments with the appropriate documentation—since all owe to the Office the continuing duty to disclose.¹

¹ See supplement of 17 June, 1999. The Patent and Trademark Office is relying on petitioner's duty of candor and good faith and accepting a statement made by Petitioner. See Changes to Patent Practice and Procedure, 62 Fed. Reg. at 53160 and 53178, 1203 Off. Gaz. Pat. Office at 88 and 103 (responses to comments 64 and 109)(applicant obligated under 37 C.F.R. §10.18 to inquire into the underlying facts and circumstances when providing statements to the Patent and Trademark Office).

Specifically, the regulations at 37 C.F.R. §10.18 provide:

§ 10.18 Signature and certificate for correspondence filed in the Patent and Trademark Office.

(a) For all documents filed in the Office in patent, trademark, and other non-patent matters, except for correspondence that is required to be signed by the applicant or party, each piece of correspondence filed by a practitioner in the Patent and Trademark Office must bear a signature by such practitioner complying with the provisions of §1.4(d), §1.4(e), or § 2.193(c)(1) of this chapter.

(b) By presenting to the Office (whether by signing, filing, submitting, or later advocating) any paper, the party presenting such paper, whether a practitioner or non-practitioner, is certifying that—

(1) All statements made therein of the party's own knowledge are true, all statements made therein on information and belief are believed to be true, and all statements made therein are made with the knowledge that whoever, in any matter within the jurisdiction of the Patent and Trademark Office, knowingly and willfully falsifies, conceals, or covers up by any trick, scheme, or device a material fact, or makes any false, fictitious or fraudulent statements or representations, or makes or uses any false writing or document knowing the same to contain any false, fictitious or fraudulent statement or entry, shall be subject to the penalties set forth under 18 U.S.C. 1001, and that violations of this paragraph may jeopardize the validity of the application or document, or the validity or enforceability of any patent, trademark registration, or certificate resulting therefrom; and

(2) To the best of the party's knowledge, information and belief, formed after an inquiry reasonable under the circumstances, that —

(i) The paper is not being presented for any improper purpose, such as to harass someone or to cause unnecessary delay or needless increase in the cost of prosecution before the Office;

(ii) The claims and other legal contentions therein are warranted by existing law or by a nonfrivolous argument for the extension, modification, or reversal of existing law or the establishment of new law;

(iii) The allegations and other factual contentions have evidentiary support or, if specifically so identified, are likely to have evidentiary support after a reasonable opportunity for further investigation or discovery; and

(iv) The denials of factual contentions are warranted on the evidence, or if specifically so identified, are reasonably based on a lack of information or belief.

(c) Violations of paragraph (b)(1) of this section by a practitioner or non-practitioner may jeopardize the validity of the application or document, or the validity or enforceability of any patent, trademark registration, or certificate resulting therefrom. Violations of any of paragraphs (b)(2)(i) through (iv) of this section are, after notice and reasonable opportunity to respond, subject to such sanctions as deemed appropriate by the Commissioner, or the Commissioner's designee, which may include, but are not limited to, any combination of —

(1) Holding certain facts to have been established;

(2) Returning papers;

In view of the prior filing of an executed oath/declaration of the sole inventor herein, further consideration under Rule 1.47 is not necessary and the petition is considered to be moot. This application does not have any Rule 1.47 status and no such status should appear on the file wrapper. This application need not be returned to this Office for any further consideration under Rule 1.47.

CONCLUSION

For the foregoing reasons, the instant petition is **dismissed as moot**; no fee is due and none appears to have been charged.

This application is being released to OIPE for further processing as necessary before being returned to substantive examination in due course.

While telephone inquiries regarding this decision may be directed to the undersigned at (571) 272-3214, it is noted that all practice before the Office is in writing (see: 37 C.F.R. §1.2¹⁰) and the proper authority for action on any matter in this regard are the statutes (35 U.S.C.), regulations (37 C.F.R.) and the commentary on policy (MPEP). Therefore, no telephone discussion may be controlling or considered authority for Petitioner's action(s).



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(3) Precluding a party from filing a paper, or presenting or contesting an issue;

(4) Imposing a monetary sanction;

(5) Requiring a terminal disclaimer for the period of the delay; or

(6) Terminating the proceedings in the Patent and Trademark Office.

(d) Any practitioner violating the provisions of this section may also be subject to disciplinary action. See § 10.23(c)(15).

[Added 50 FR 5175, Feb. 6, 1985, effective Mar. 8, 1985; para. (a) revised, 58 FR 54494, Oct. 22, 1993, effective Nov. 22, 1993; paras. (a) & (b) revised, paras. (c) & (d) added, 62 FR 53131, Oct. 10, 1997, effective Dec. 1, 1997; para. (a) revised, 69 FR 56481, Sept. 21, 2004, effective Oct. 21, 2004]

¹⁰ The regulations at 37 C.F.R. §1.2 provide:

§1.2 Business to be transacted in writing.

All business with the Patent and Trademark Office should be transacted in writing. The personal attendance of applicants or their attorneys or agents at the Patent and Trademark Office is unnecessary. The action of the Patent and Trademark Office will be based exclusively on the written record in the Office. No attention will be paid to any alleged oral promise, stipulation, or understanding in relation to which there is disagreement or doubt.